

Remarks

[0001] Herein, the "Action" or "Office Action" refers to the non-final Office Action dated May 8, 2007.

[0002] Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims of the application. Claims 1, 3-14, 16, and 18-39 are presently pending. Claims amended herein are 1, 16, 32, 33, and 36. Claims 2, 15, 17, and 40 are canceled herein. New claims added herein are none. No new matter is added by the amendments, and support for the amendments can be found at least at page 13 of the specification "as filed".

Claim Objections

[0003] Claims 3, 18, and 38 are objected to due to informalities (*i.e.*, as not being properly indented) (*Office Action*, p.4). Applicant appreciates the Examiner's assistance in identifying these informalities, and appropriate correction has been made here.

Substantive Claim Rejections

35 USC § 112 Claim Rejections

[0004] Claims 15 and 40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112 second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claims 15 and 40 are canceled herein rendering the rejection of these claim moot.

35 USC § 103 Claim Rejections

[0005] Claims 1-31 and 34-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for obviousness over a non-patent publication entitled "Tracing Overview" published by Microsoft Corporation in 2002 (*hereinafter* "Tracing Overview") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,157,927 to Schaefer et al. (*hereinafter*, "Schaefer"), and further in view of pages 1-20 of a non-patent publication entitled "Log Explorer Walkthrough" 2002 (*hereinafter* "Log Explorer") (*Office Action*, p.5).

[0006] Claims 32 and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for obviousness over Tracing Overview in view of Schaefer (*Office Action*, p.16).

[0007] Applicant notes that claims 2, 15, 17, and 40 are canceled herein, and accordingly the rejection of these claims is moot. Applicant respectfully traverses the remaining 103 rejections, and requests reconsideration and allowance in light of the comments and amendments contained herein. Accordingly, Applicant requests that the rejections be withdrawn and that the case be passed along to issuance.

[0008] **Claim 1** as amended, recites a method comprising:

servicing a Web request from a Web application;
associating a Globally Unique Identifier (GUID) with the Web request, wherein events which happen during servicing of the Web request can be identified by the GUID which is logged with each of the events;
detecting the occurrence of an event in the servicing of the Web request;
logging an entry in a trace log, wherein the entry includes:
information descriptive of the occurrence of the event in the servicing of the Web request; and
the GUID corresponding to the Web request; and
determining which of the information that is descriptive of the occurrence of the event to put into the entry as a function of a predetermined level of verbosity.

[0009] Tracing Overview and/or Schaefer and/or Log Explorer do not teach or suggest the combination of features recited in claim 1. For example, the Tracing Overview-Schaefer-Log Explorer combination does not teach or suggest "determining which of the information that is descriptive of the occurrence of the event to put into the entry as a function of a predetermined level of verbosity" as recited in claim 1.

[0010] With regard to such determining, the Office cites generally to pages 1-8 of Tracing Overview (*Office Action*, p.8; *Tracing Overview*, pp.1-8). Tracing Overview describes methods for tracing execution paths of web applications by ASP.NET through two techniques – application level tracing and page level tracing (*Tracing Overview*, p.1). Tracing Overview describes that to enable page level tracing for a page, a specific directive is entered at the top of the page code (*Tracing Overview*, p.2). With

regard to application level tracing, Tracing Overview describes that the ASP.NET runtime collects certain statistics like the state of the control hierarchy, contents of the session, application state and other characteristics of the web request's execution (*Tracing Overview*, p.5). More particularly, Tracing Overview describes that application level tracing is enabled by placing a specified tag in the application's web.config file at the application's root directory (*Tracing Overview*, p.5). However, there is no description of "determining which of the information that is descriptive of the occurrence of the event to put into the entry as a function of a predetermined level of verbosity" as recited in claim 1.

[0011] Schaefer and/or Log Explorer each fail to cure the deficiencies of Tracing Overview, as Schaefer and/or Log Explorer do not teach or suggest "determining which of the information that is descriptive of the occurrence of the event to put into the entry as a function of a predetermined level of verbosity" as recited in claim 1. Further, the Office has not cited to Schaefer and/or Log Explorer as disclosing such.

[0012] Accordingly, claim 1 is allowable over the Tracing Overview-Schaefer-Log Explorer combination for at least these reasons, and Applicant respectfully requests that the §103 rejection be withdrawn.

[0013] **Claims 2-14** are allowable by virtue of their dependency upon claim 1 (either directly or indirectly). Additionally, some or all of claims 2-15 may be allowable over the Tracing Overview-Schaefer-Log Explorer combination for independent reasons.

[0014] **Claim 16** as amended, recites computer-readable medium having stored thereon computer-executable instructions for performing steps comprising:

 associating a Globally Unique Identifier (GUID) with a Web request, wherein events which happen during servicing of the Web request can be identified by the GUID which is logged with the events;

 servicing a the Web request with a server from a Web application that is executing on the server, wherein during the servicing multiple logger streams are simultaneously active to log the events as the Web request is being serviced by the server;

 detecting the occurrence of the events during the servicing of the Web request by the server;

 logging each of the events as entries in a trace log, wherein each entry includes:

 information descriptive of the occurrence of an event;

 an event ID corresponding to the event; and

 the GUID corresponding to the Web request; and

 determining which of the descriptive information to put into the entry as a function of a predetermined level of verbosity.

[0015] In rejecting claim 16, the Office indicates that the claim is rejected for the reasons similar to those set forth in the rejection of claim 1 (*Office Action*, p.12). In response, Applicant asserts that amended claim 16 allowable over the Tracing Overview-Schaefer-Log Explorer combination based on reasoning similar to that discussed above in response to the rejection of claim 1. For example, the Tracing Overview-Schaefer-Log Explorer combination does not teach or suggest "determining which of the

descriptive information to put into the entry as a function of a predetermined level of verbosity", as recited in claim 16. For the sake of brevity, Applicant has not repeated the arguments.

[0016] Accordingly, claim 16 is allowable over the Tracing Overview-Schaefer-Log Explorer combination for at least these reasons, and Applicant respectfully requests that the §103 rejection be withdrawn.

[0017] **Claims 18-31** are allowable by virtue of their dependency upon claim 16 (either directly or indirectly). Additionally, some or all of claims 18-31 may be allowable over the Tracing Overview-Schaefer-Log Explorer combination for independent reasons.

[0018] **Claim 32** as amended, recites a facility for tracing a Web request on a network, the facility comprising:

identifying means for identifying when a predetermined event occurs in a predetermined Web request when the predetermined Web request is being serviced; and

a logging means, in communication with the identifying means, for logging the event in a trace log as the event happens, wherein the log of the event includes: a GUID corresponding to the predetermined Web request; and information descriptive of the occurrence of the event when the predetermined Web request is being serviced;

wherein the logging means is further for determining which of the information that is descriptive of the occurrence of the event to put into the entry in the trace log as a function of a predetermined level of verbosity.

[0019] Tracing Overview and/or Schaefer do not teach or suggest the combination of features recited in claim 32. For example, the Tracing Overview-Schaefer combination does not teach or suggest “wherein the logging means is further for determining which of the information that is descriptive of the occurrence of the event to put into the entry in the trace log as a function of a predetermined level of verbosity” as recited in claim 32.

[0020] With regard to the recited limitation, the Office cites generally to pages 1-8 of Tracing Overview (*Office Action*, p.8; *Tracing Overview*, pp.1-8). As described previously, Tracing Overview describes methods for tracing execution paths of web applications by ASP.NET through two techniques – application level tracing and page level tracing (*Tracing Overview*, p.1). Tracing Overview describes that to enable page level tracing for a page, a specific directive is entered at the top of the page code (*Tracing Overview*, p.2). With regard to application level tracing, Tracing Overview describes that the ASP.NET runtime collects certain statistics like the state of the control hierarchy, contents of the session, application state and other characteristics of the web request's execution (*Tracing Overview*, p.5). More particularly, Tracing Overview describes that application level tracing is enabled by placing a specified tag in the application's web.config file at the application's root directory (*Tracing Overview*, p.5). However, there is no description that a “logging means is further for determining which of the information that is descriptive of the

occurrence of the event to put into the entry in the trace log as a function of a predetermined level of verbosity" as recited in claim 32.

[0021] Schaefer fails to cure the deficiencies of Tracing Overview, as Schaefer does not teach or suggest "wherein the logging means is further for determining which of the information that is descriptive of the occurrence of the event to put into the entry in the trace log as a function of a predetermined level of verbosity" as recited in claim 32. Further, the Office has not cited to Schaefer as disclosing such.

[0022] Accordingly, claim 32 is allowable over the Tracing Overview-Schaefer combination for at least these reasons, and Applicant respectfully requests that the §103 rejection be withdrawn.

[0023] **Claim 33** as amended, recites:

A network environment comprising a server servicing Web requests from a Web application while performing Web request-based tracing to produce traces that include a GUID for each Web request and to flow each GUID from the server across to the Web application, wherein the traces include information that is descriptive of events which occur during the servicing of the Web request, and wherein the information to be included in the traces is determined in part as a function of a predetermined level of verbosity" (Emphasis Added).

[0024] Tracing Overview and/or Schaefer do not teach or suggest the combination of features recited in claim 33. For example, the Tracing Overview-Schaefer combination does not teach or suggest "wherein the

traces include information that is descriptive of events which occur during the servicing of the Web request, and wherein the information to be included in the traces is determined in part as a function of a predetermined level of verbosity” as recited in claim 33.

[0025] With regard to the recited limitation, the Office cites generally to pages 1-8 of Tracing Overview (*Office Action*, p.8; *Tracing Overview*, pp.1-8). As described previously, Tracing Overview describes methods for tracing execution paths of web applications by ASP.NET through two techniques – application level tracing and page level tracing (*Tracing Overview*, p.1). Tracing Overview describes that to enable page level tracing for a page, a specific directive is entered at the top of the page code (*Tracing Overview*, p.2). With regard to application level tracing, Tracing Overview describes that the ASP.NET runtime collects certain statistics like the state of the control hierarchy, contents of the session, application state and other characteristics of the web request's execution (*Tracing Overview*, p.5). More particularly, Tracing Overview describes that application level tracing is enabled by placing a specified tag in the application's web.config file at the application's root directory (*Tracing Overview*, p.5). However, there is no description that “the traces include information that is descriptive of events which occur during the servicing of the Web request, and wherein the information to be included in the traces is determined in part as a function of a predetermined level of verbosity” as recited in claim 33.

[0026] Schaefer fails to cure the deficiencies of Tracing Overview, as Schaefer does not teach or suggest that "the traces include information that is descriptive of events which occur during the servicing of the Web request, and wherein the information to be included in the traces is determined in part as a function of a predetermined level of verbosity" as recited in claim 33. Further, the Office has not cited to Schaefer as disclosing such.

[0027] Accordingly, claim 33 is allowable over the Tracing Overview-Schaefer combination for at least these reasons, and Applicant respectfully requests that the §103 rejection be withdrawn.

[0028] **Claims 34-35** are allowable over the Tracing Overview-Schaefer combination by virtue of their dependency upon claim 33 (either directly or indirectly) for at least the reasons discussed above. Further, claims 34 and 35 are also allowable over Tracing Overview-Schaefer-Log Explorer combination, as Log Explorer fails to cure the deficiencies of the Tracing Overview and/or Schaefer. Additionally, one or both of claims 34 and 35 may be allowable over the Tracing Overview and/or Schaefer and/or Log Explorer for independent reasons.

[0029] **Claim 36** as amended, recites a server module comprising:

logic configured to service a Web request from a Web application;

logic configured to detect an occurrence of an event in the servicing of the Web request;

logic configured to log an entry in a trace log, wherein the entry includes:

information descriptive of the occurrence of the event the servicing of the Web request; and

a Globally Unique Identifier (GUID) corresponding to the Web request, wherein the GUID is associated with the Web request, so that events which happen during servicing of the Web request can be identified by the GUID which is logged with each of the events; and

logic configured to determine which of the information descriptive of the occurrence of the event to put into the entry as a function of a predetermined level of verbosity.

[0030] In rejecting claim 36, the Office indicates that the claim is rejected for the reasons similar to those set forth in the rejection of claim 1 (*Office Action*, p.15). In response, Applicant asserts that amended claim 36 allowable over the Tracing Overview-Schaefer-Log Explorer combination based on reasoning similar to that discussed above in response to the rejection of claim 1. For example, the Tracing Overview-Schaefer-Log Explorer combination does not teach or suggest "logic configured to determine which of the information descriptive of the occurrence of the event to put into the entry as a function of a predetermined level of verbosity", as recited in claim 36. For the sake of brevity, Applicant has not repeated the arguments.

[0031] Accordingly, claim 36 is allowable over the Tracing Overview-Schaefer-Log Explorer combination for at least these reasons, and Applicant respectfully requests that the §103 rejection be withdrawn.

[0032] **Claims 37-39** are allowable by virtue of their dependency upon claim 36 (either directly or indirectly). Additionally, one or both of claims 37-39 may be allowable over the Tracing Overview-Schaefer-Log Explorer combination for independent reasons.

Dependent Claims

[0033] In addition to its own merits, each dependent claim is allowable for the same reasons that its base claim is allowable. Applicant submits that the Office withdraw the rejection of each dependent claim where its base claim is allowable.

Conclusion

[0034] All pending claims are in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and prompt issuance of the application. If any issues remain that prevent issuance of this application, the Office is urged to contact the undersigned attorney before issuing a subsequent Action.

Respectfully Submitted,

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